

REMARKS

The present application was filed on February 11, 2004 with claims 1 through 21. Claims 1-21 are presently pending in the above-identified patent application.

5 In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 11 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ngo (United States Patent Number 6,263,247). The Examiner indicated that claims 1-10 are allowed and claims 12-16 and 18-21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Independent Claims 11 and 17

10 Independent claims 11 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ngo. Regarding claim 11, the Examiner asserts that Ngo discloses means for shunting (C10, C11) at least a portion of the current that would otherwise pass through the at least one resistor during an overshoot mode (col. 4, lines 21-59)

The present disclosure teaches that

15 an ***impedance matched*** write circuit is provided that *shunts one or more matching resistors*. The impedance matched write circuit includes an interconnect for connecting to a write head and *at least one resistor between a control voltage and the interconnect for impedance matching to the interconnect*. In one implementation, *a transistor is connected across the resistor to shunt current that would otherwise pass through the resistor during an overshoot mode*. The transistor may be a P-Channel Metal Oxide Silicon (PMOS) transistor or a combination of PMOS and NMOS transistors. A gate voltage of the transistor is controlled by a source such that the transistor is turned on in an overshoot mode and turned off during a steady state mode.
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25 (Page 2, lines 11-19; emphasis added)

The Examiner equates a capacitor C10, C11 with a “means for shunting.” Applicants note, however, that a “shunt” is defined as “a conductor having low resistance in parallel with another device to divert a fraction of the current.” (See, dictionary.com) A conductor is defined as “a material or object that *permits an electric current to flow easily*.”
30 (See, dictionary.com; emphasis added) As would be apparent to a person of ordinary skill in the art, a capacitor may store a charge, but does *not* act as a conductor of current that is in parallel with another device, and is *not* capable of acting as a ***shunt to divert a fraction of the current***, as would be apparent to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Independent claims 11 and 17, as amended, require at least one resistor between a control voltage and said interconnect for

impedance matching to said interconnect; and *shunting at least a portion of the current that would otherwise pass through said at least one resistor* during an overshoot mode

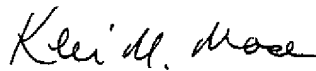
Thus, Ngo does not disclose or suggest at least one resistor between a control voltage and said interconnect for impedance matching to said interconnect; and shunting at least a portion of the current that would otherwise pass through said at least one resistor during an overshoot mode, as required by independent claims 11 and 17, as amended

All of the pending claims, i.e., claims 1-21, are in condition for allowance and such favorable action is earnestly solicited.

If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below

The Examiner's attention to this matter is appreciated

Respectfully submitted,



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